(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Classical language status to Malayalam

2358. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has accorded classical language status to Kannada and Telugu recently;

(b) if so, what are the languages that are accorded "classical language" status so far and on what basis this status is being accorded;

(c) whether there is any proposal before the Government to accord the classical language status to Malayalam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Kannada language and Telugu language have been classified as 'classical languages' *vide* Government of India Notification No. 2-16/2004-Akademies dated 31.10.2008.

(b) So far, Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada and Telugu have been classified as "classical language".

Government has laid down the following criteria to determine the eligibility of languages to be considered for classification as "classical language":

(i) High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years.

(ii) A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers.

(iii) The literacy tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community.

(iv) The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

National Library, Kolkata

2359. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Library, Kolkata, has been granted autonomy or continues to be subordinate to her Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of the statute, if any, according the autonomy highlighting its nature implied in the statute;

(c) if not, the structure of organisation entrusted with the management and governance of the affairs of the Library;

(d) whether Government had last constituted a Board of Management for National Library, Kolkata, *vide* an order in June, 2002;

(e) if so, the details thereof, indicating the terms stipulated; and

(f) the reasons for not constituting any new Board of Management thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The National Library is functioning as a Subordinate Officer under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, New Delhi and continues to do so as of today.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The Director, National Library is the Head of the Department and exercises all the administrative and financial powers which are delegated by the Govt. of India. The Director is in overall charge of the Library with two Professional Librarians (now designated as Principal Library and Information Officer) under him. The Director and the PLIOs are assisted by the Library and Information Officer (LIO) on the professional side and by the Senior Administrative Officer and two Administrative Officers on the administrative side. The set-up of the National Library broadly consists of (i) Professionals Divisions (ii) Conservation Divisions and (iii) Administrative Divisions.

(d) The Govt. of India had constituted, for the first time a Board of Management for National Library, Kolkata *vide* an order in June, 2002.

(e) The Board of Management will formulate and monitor the Annual Action Plan for the National Library and report to the Advisory Board for National Library and Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India on a quarterly basis. The term of office of members of the Board of Management shall be one year. The Government may however, terminate the membership of any member before the completion of the term without assigning any reasons or may reconstitute of disband the Board as may be deemed fit.

(f) The Board of Management for National Library was re-constituted on 21st July, 2003 and thereafter on 28th September, 2004 till further orders.

Celebration of 150th Birth-anniversary of Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose

2360. SHRI BARUN MUKHERJI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it will be befitting to organize some national level programmes to celebrate the 150th Birth-anniversary of the great Indian scientist Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose, which is currently being observed throughout the world, including Britain and America; and

(b) if so, what steps have so far been taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry of Culture to popularise J.C. Bose's contributions to the world of science?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No proposals for organizing the commemorative programmes have been received so far.